



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Barbara Brower, Black River Area Chamber of Commerce, 120 N. Water Street, Black River Falls, WI, 54615 715-284-4658, barbbrower@blackrivercountry.net

BLACK RIVER FALLS, Wis. (February 4, 2015) – Elk Reintroduction Open House Scheduled

What started as a dream over 15 years ago for some local conservationists is now becoming a reality. Elk are coming to Jackson County! And to get ready for the occasion, the public is invited to attend an informational open house to learn more.

The event is being sponsored by several organizations who have been heavily involved in the effort to introduce elk to Jackson County and include the Jackson County Wildlife Fund, Ho-Chunk Nation, the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, the County of Jackson, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, and the Black River Area Chamber of Commerce.

The open house will be held the evening of Thursday, March 5, 2015, at the Ho-Chunk Nation Tribal Office Building, W9814 Airport Road, Black River Falls, WI. Each organization will provide information and be available to answer questions beginning at 6:00 p.m. A formal presentation about the many aspects of the project will follow at 7:00 p.m.

"If it wasn't for the local interest and support in Jackson County, this project wouldn't have ever started," says Kevin Wallenfang, big game ecologist with the Department of Natural Resources. "This is grassroots conservation at its finest, and I hope the community will come to the event to learn more."

This exciting project will restore a native species to Wisconsin for current and future generations. In addition, elk reintroduction will provide recreational opportunities through viewing and hunting for Wisconsin citizens as well as tourists from other states, with an expected economic boost for local economies. "This is exciting for the community and surrounding counties," says Barb Brower from the Black River Area Chamber of Commerce. "We are anxious to help people get informed and excited about the arrival of elk to our area."

We encourage all who are interested to attend and learn more about elk, their habitat and the future of the herd for Jackson County. For more information on the Open House, please contact, the Black River Area Chamber of Commerce at 800-404-4008 or email chamber@blackrivercountry.net.



Photo Caption:

This bull elk is an example of what area citizens and tourists will be able to view in the coming years in Jackson County.